

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image apparatus has a light-receiving section and a light-blocking section. The light-receiving section receives light from an object to generate an analog video signal. The light-blocking section blocks the light to generate reference signals. The analog video signal is converted into a digital video signal. The reference signals are accumulated a predetermined number of times from a predetermined accumulation starting point on scanning lines forming an image of the object for a specific period. The accumulated signal is averaged to generate an average signal. A reference level of the digital video signal is adjusted based on the average signal so that the difference between the digital video signal and the average signal becomes zero. The number of times for accumulation is decided as  $2^n$  that is smaller than a specific number "m" of the scanning lines for forming the image of the object. The accumulation starting point is decided as  $(m - 2^n)/2$ , "n" and "m" being positive integers.

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